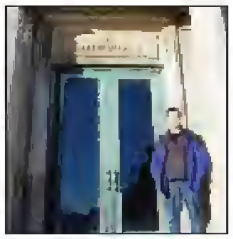
The
Fort Erie Times
www.forterietimes.com
Saturday, January 7, 2012



Theft at Mausoleum
Vandals get away with brass gates
05

Return to home ice
Meteors being visited by Canucks tonight
15

• Mid–morning snack program

get it online
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Body discovered in river

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Last Saturday, Niagara Regional Police were called to the shore of the Niagara River, after two fishermen found a body. Read the story on page three.

Couple thankful

Firefighters and residents come together for family who lost home on Christmas Eve

Kris Dubé
The Times

For most of Christmas Eve, Monica Lamarche had a regular day with her family.

During the afternoon, she and her fiancee Doug finished their wedding invitations for the big day they are celebrating in February.

Her son Gavin was waiting eagerly for Christmas Day... but later in the evening the family would have their holidays interrupted, as an electrical fire at their home caused $75,000 in damage and the Fort Erie Fire Department battled it for hours.

It wasn't the Christmas any family was hoping for.

Fortunately, the young family's insurance will cover most of the damage... but it is a major inconvenience and a group of local residents decided to help make things easier for them last weekend.

See Page 2

PHILIP D. SCREEN
Funeral Director
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Local Tim Horton's owner Rick Strom, left, with Monica Lamarche and Doug Stewart, along with Fort Erie firefighters Jeff Gray, Tim Petrushak, Rob Puttick, Kyle Johnston and Chris Hall.

'There are so many good people out there'

From Page 1

On Saturday morning, a handful of people met with Monica and Doug at a local Tim Horton's, to drop off items the couple would likely need during such a tough time.

Hundreds of dollars in gift cards to local stores, suitcases full of clothes, a lot of them for their 10-year-old son Gavin.

Monica said it was overwhelming.

"Everything happened just so fast," she said.

But saying the family is appreciative of these acts of thoughtfulness, would not give a full description of how they really feel.

"It gives you so much faith in humanity, there are so many good people out there. We really can't begin to thank everyone... they've done so much for us."

And it is all from a coincidence that happens in a small town like Fort Erie.

Monica phoned a listing for an apartment for rent, only to find out that the person renting it out was one of the firefighters who helped battle the fire at their home.

Dan Harkins, president of Fire Company No. 2, was told by his wife Lorri that Monica had called about their apartment and he got back in touch with her to arrange last Saturday's gesture.

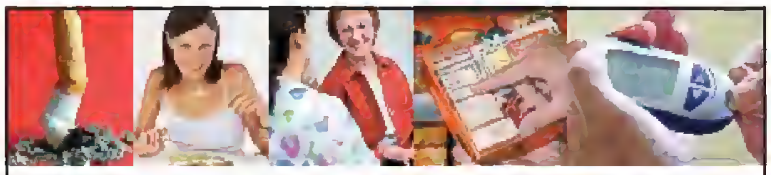
He said the donation wasn't necessarily organized by the fire department, but is the result of people coming together for a family in need of some temporary support.

"It wasn't really on behalf of anybody, other than the fine folks of Fort Erie," said Harkins, who was able to gather a crowd at the local coffee shop through posting the idea on Facebook.

"I just put it out there," he said.

He admits that it would be difficult to come together every time a situation like this arises, but when a family has to evacuate their home on Christmas Eve, sometimes you have to make an exception.

"It's a small town and we need to take care of each other."



Bridges
Community Health Centre
Fort Erie and Port Colborne/Wainfleet

'NO COST' COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Sign up and participate in one of our community health and wellness programs and have a chance at winning one of five $25 Food Gift Certificates to No Frills!

QUIT SMOKING WORKSHOP: Thinking about quitting smoking or cutting back? Join our three week 'You Can Quit' program and learn how to quit for good. The workshop will run every *Tues., 5:30-7:00 pm, Jan. 10-24.*

GROCERY FOOD STORE TOURS: Discover how to make healthy food choices, read food labels and shop on a budget at Grocery Food Store Tours led by Bridges Community Health Centre's (CHC) Registered Dietitians. *The tours are scheduled for Jan. 11 at 10:30 am; Feb., 28 at 3:30 pm; Apr. 11 – 10:30 am at No Frills.*

CRAVING CHANGE: This how-to workshop is focused on changing your relationship with food. You will learn to understand why you eat the way you do; how to comfort yourself without food and to change your thinking so you can change your eating. This six week program will run every *Wed., 5:15-7:00 pm, Jan. 18 - Feb. 29.*

CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT: A six-week workshop series for people living with chronic pain to learn and use new coping tools or strategies. The program will run every *Wed. 1:30-3:30, Feb. 1-Mar. 7.*

DIABETES HOT TOPICS: A monthly group session covering diabetes related topics such as managing your blood sugar, nutrition issues, and complications of diabetes. One hour sessions will be held on *Feb. 2, Mar. 1, and Apr. 5 from 3-4 pm.*

PRE-DIABETES INFORMATION SESSIONS: For people who have pre-diabetes or a family history of diabetes, this presentation will focus on nutrition and lifestyle management to prevent/delay the onset of diabetes or diabetes symptoms. Sessions will be held on *Feb. 16 and Apr. 11 from 2:30-4 pm.*

HEALTHY YOU: Are you looking to be a healthier weight using a lifestyle/non-diet approach? Do you like a group setting, sharing experiences and offering mutual support? Join us on *Tues. Apr. 3 from 6:30-7:30 pm* to learn if this program is right for you.

MINDFUL LIVING: A Mindfulness-based approach to coping can be of benefit to anyone, and is proven very helpful for people with chronic pain, anxiety or depression. To learn more, participate in an information session on *Apr. 4, 1:30-3:00 pm or 6:30-8:00 pm* and find out if this is right for you.

TAKE CHARGE: If you are searching for the secret to living well with an ongoing health problem, register for this six-week program focused on helping you learn to manage your health and live life to the fullest. The program will run every *Tues., 9:30-12:00 pm, Mar. 6-Apr. 10.*

SUPPORT GROUPS

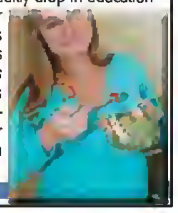
CAREGIVER SUPPORT NETWORK: If you are caring for a loved one and feeling stressed out, or in need of some personal support, drop-in to our monthly caregiver support network the *third Thurs. of every month from 1-3 pm.*

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP: The women's social group meets on the *third Mon. of every month from 10-12 pm* and offers a space for women to do activities and learn about topics of interest.

MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP: The men's social group **meets every Thurs. from 10-11:30 am** and offers a space for men to make time and friends over coffee and conversation. Presentations on a range of men's health issues held most weeks Jan. thru April.

FOR EXPECTING MOM'S AND MOM'S WITH BABIES UP TO 8 WEEKS

Healthy from the Start: The Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program offers a weekly drop-in education and resource program for expecting moms and moms with babies up to eight weeks old *every Mon. at Bridges CHC from 1-3 pm.* Moms receive a $10 food gift certificate every week just for attending. No registration required.



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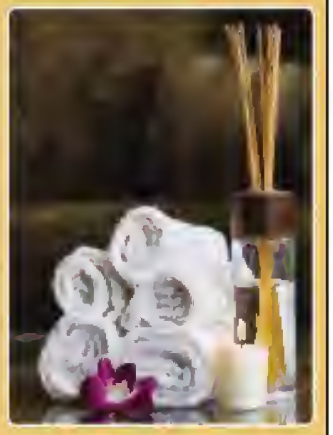
Relax • Refresh • Revive

The staff at Bridgeburg Spa & My Salon would like to take this time to wish everyone all the best in this New Year. We would also like to thank everyone for joining us for our Open House and making it a great success, we hope to see you all next year. A big thanks to Ming Teh for the great food, Silver Leaf Design for the beautiful floral arrangements and Something Different for the delicious chocolates.



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Police not releasing identity

Detectives with the Niagara Regional Police have investigated the discovery of a body in the Niagara River.

Two fishermen found the body and notified authorities and the scene on the Niagara Parkway, near Bertie Street was secured, last Saturday morning.

It is believed to be the body of a female, but a positive identification cannot be made at this time. The Coroner attended and ordered an autopsy to take place in Hamilton. Members of the Detective Office in Fort Erie continued their investigation until Wednesday and have concluded that no foul play was involved.

The body has been positively identified through dental records but a name will not be released by police.

Charges laid from July incident

Two local residents have been been charged, after a motor vehicle accident back in July 2011.

Niagara Regional Police Service, Niagara Emergency Medical Service and the Fort Erie Fire Department responded to reports of a serious motor vehicle collision on Phipps Street east of Thompson Road.

Initial police investigation at the collision scene determined that a Grey 2004 Hyundai Santa Fe SUV was being operated westbound on Phipps Street, when the vehicle veered to the left and entered the eastbound traffic lane, then the Santa Fe veered right (north) across both traffic lanes and entered a ditch on the north side of the roadway where it rolled over and landed on its wheels.

The driver, a 46 year-old male resident of Fort Erie, sustained life-threatening injuries in the collision and had to be extricated from the SUV by members of the Fort Erie Fire Department. He was transported by ambulance to Niagara Falls where he was then transferred to an air ambulance and flown to Hamilton General Hospital in critical condition. A 45- year-old female resident of Fort Erie, who was the front seat passenger in the Hyundai, sustained serious injuries. This week, the male driving the vehicle was charged with impaired driving causing bodily harm and driving with a blood-alcohol level above 80, causing bodily harm.

The female passenger is charged with permit to be driven without insurance.

Vehicle knocks down power lines

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

On Thursday afternoon, Niagara Regional Police, Niagara Emergency Medical Services and the Fort Erie Fire Department were called to Garrison Road near Sunset Drive, after a motorist heading west went into oncoming traffic and entered a ditch on the opposite side of the road, knocking down a hydro pole. The Canadian Niagara Power Company also attended the scene, before the driver was removed from the vehicle and it was determined that power lines would not cause any danger. The motorist, a senior citizen, was not injured in the incident and police will continue to investigate.

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Bridgewater Restaurant

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bridgewater Country Club is pleased to announce the appointment of our new EXECUTIVE CHEF, JOHN CECCKIN.

Chef John is joining us from Casa d'oro Restaurant in Niagara Falls and is very happy to be working in his hometown of Fort Erie. His past experience includes restaurants in Japan, Grand Cayman Island and the Marriott Fallsview in Niagara Falls. We look forward to welcoming him to Bridgewater Country Club and his experience in the kitchen will be a delight to all of our customers.

Chef John has prepared a new winter menu with many of the local favourites as well as daily luncheon and dinner specials.

Stop by anytime and treat yourself to an outstanding meal.

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Dinners served Friday and Saturday
evenings from 4:00PM till 9:00PM
New Sunday Brunch with many of
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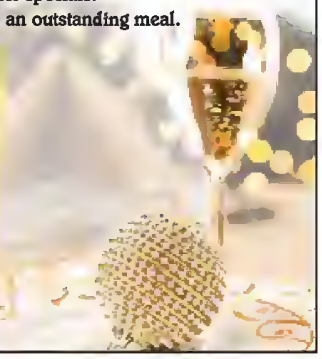
from10:00AM till 2:30PM
JANUARY AND FEBRUARY WINTER BLUES SPECIAL
Friday evenings from 4:30 till 7:00PM
complimentary Hors d'ouevres



Nice storefront

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Vivianne Cooney, left, from the Ridgeway Business Improvement Association (BIA), along with Hidden Treasures antique shop owners Derrick Dea and Tom Green and BIA treasurer Karen Malton, who is the owner of the Work of Art frame shop, presented Dea and Green with the prize for the best storefront, voted on during the annual Spirit of Christmas and Dickens Style Open House.

Pet Pics with Santa

KRIS DUBÉ Kris Dubé

Santa Claus and his elf Ivy Campbell had their hands full during the recent Pet Pics with Santa event, a fundraiser held at St. Paul's Anglican Church that benefits the local SPCA. Several animal lovers brought their dogs, cats and even ferretts to pose for a photo at the annual event.

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Matt Woehl, the Town of Fort Erie's supervisor of parks and cemeteries services, stands near the doors of the Memorial Ridge Mausoleum on Garison Road, where two brass gates were recently cut and removed.

The Memorial Ridge Mausoleum on Garrison Road, before two brass gates were stolen from the historic site.

Vandals get away with gates from historic site

Kris Dubé
The Times

With the value of scrap metal being as high as it is, stealing it from private properties has become more popular with criminals.

This week, the Town of Fort Erie's supervisor of parks and cemeteries services Matt Woehl noticed something different with the Memorial Ridge Mausoleum on Garrison Road, near Ridge Road.

Passing by, it became apparent that two brass gates that covered the two front doors to the historic building had been cut and removed.

"We're thinking this happened over the last few weeks, at the very latest," said Woehl.

Standing next to the two doors the gates were stripped from, Woehl said because they appear to also be made of valuable brass, the Town hopes whoever committed this strategic act of crime doesn't have plans to come back for them too.

"We want to make sure these aren't the next to go," he said.

The mausoleum was built in 1925 by wealthy farmers and founding fathers in the Ridgeway area, many of whom are interred in the 205 crypts at the site.

Since the purpose of the facility is a sensitive one, Woehl said it is frustrating to know that there are people out there that would commit this act and vandalize a building that has remained virtually untouched since it was erected.

Woehl believes the stolen gates were part of the original building.

"They definitely match all of the existing ornaments," said Woehl.

The Niagara Regional Police's district no. 5 staff sergeant Dave Hunter said it is difficult to track stolen items like this, saying it would be easier to identify a brass plaque or something that can be recognized at first glance.

"It's hard to identify, but we endeavour to do what we can," said Hunter.

Anyone with information about this theft, when it was committed or who may be responsible, is asked to contact police.

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Thank You Fort Erie!

The Kinsmen Club of Fort Erie would like to extend a special thank you to the caring citizens of Greater Fort Erie who donated to our recent Gift of Love Program. We would like to thank in particular the following persons, businesses & staff for making this a heartfelt Christmas for those children who said "thank you Santa".

- Fort Erie Public Library
- Fort Erie Kinsmen
- Royal Bank, Ridgeway
- McGregor- Miller
- Town Of Fort Erie Employees
- Scotiabank in County Fair Mall
- Brodies Drug Store
- Walmart
- Salvation Army Staff
- The Times
- Fort Erie Co-Op Nursery School Staff
- General Vanier School
- Rose Seaton School
- Fort Erie Elementary
- Garrison Road School
- Old Bank Bistro
- P.Mines Custom Brokerage
- Livingston International
- Fort Erie Bingo

Fort Erie Kinsmen
THE SALVATION ARMY

opinion page

The
Fort Erie Times www.forterietimes.com
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our editorial

Let us know what's on your mind

What do you think the biggest newsmaker was locally in 2011?

Next week, we will be running our Year in Review section, summarizing all the top stories from around town that unfolded last year.

But we want to hear our readers' thoughts on what they think was the most important issue in Greater Fort Erie.

Do you agree or disagree with the way certain matters unfolded in the council chambers?

Do you think Fort Erie health care situation is as bad as some people feel it is?

What events or projects are you looking ahead to in 2012?

These are only a few of the questions readers and residents can ask themselves, and bopefully out their answers into the form of a letter to the editor.

Your opinion matters and we want to hear from you.

We all know this is a town where people aren't shy to share their opinions. So, put them in writing and let the entire town know what you're thinking... if you baven't already.

Send us your letters to editorial@forterietimes.com.

-Kris Dubé

Do You Remember?

Thank you Masons for answering the call! We received great responses from local Masons and their family members. Thanks to Councillor Rick Shular, Al Stouffer, Mike Davenport, Christene D'Uva and two anonymous readers, we know that the men are, from left to right: Worshipful Master Floyd Hughes, Master of the Fort Erie Lodge; Right Worshipful Brother Herbert Stouffer, District Deputy Grand Master of District Niagara B; Right Worshipful Brother George Derx Jr., the District Deputy Grand Master of Allegany, NY; and Right Worshipful Brother George Derx Sr., the past District Deputy Grand Master of Allegany. Christene tells us that her grandfather, Herbert Stouffer had just been elected to his office. The photo was taken during a large meeting at Fort Erie Lodge on November 27, 1976, which fifty visiting American Masons attended. Fort Erie Lodge, which merged with Palmer Lodge approximately twenty-five years ago, is now called Palmer Lodge.

We also heard from Sherri (Hilmayer) Kochan about the previous week's photo of the nativity scene. Her parents alerted her to the photo which led her to a scrapbook containing the original clipping. The scrapbook had been made for Sherri by her grandmother. What a great tradition to start for your children or grandchildren! Thank you Sherri. Tbanks as well to Coralie Graham who told us more history about the nativity. The first Christmas it was placed in front of St. Michael's Church, then at the Fort Erie Railway Station the following year, and in its third year, at Mather's Arch. This nativity featuring lit candles was the beginning of the Festival of Lights which started at Fort Erie and travelled towards Niagara Falls.

This week's photo dated Jan. 6, 1982 shows two eager young skiers. If you know either of them, please call the Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail us at museum@forterie.on.ca.

Donations made last weekend to family have small town feel

Kris Dubé
Editor's Notebbok

This is the stuff small towns are made of.

Last weekend, the local couple who had their holidays severely impacted by a fire at their home on Christmas Eve were greeted at a local Tim Horton's by a group of residents who decided to pool together for a great gesture.

A collection of gifts were handed to them, as they cope with re-adjusting their lives, less than two months away from when they have plans to tie the knot.

Insurance will replace most of the loss, but I can't imagine going through something like this, losing your home... especially on Christmas Eve.

I know this is an overused theme and an easy point to make in an editorial, but this should really make you tbankful for what you have. Your health, your family and friends... it's all way too important.

Look on the brighter side of things.

The night of the fire, I snuggled into my Christmas pajamas and tried to get some sleep before the big day.

Just settling in, I heard tones from the scanner and when I heard "structure fire," I figured it was something I should investigate.

I got out of my pajamas, threw on some jeans and headed out.

I was there for about an hour, cutting into my rest for the next day where I had a full schedule of family functions to attend.

The point I'm making is that I shouldn't complain because there was a fire at midnight on Christmas Eve and I had to snap some photos of it.

I should be (and am) glad that the family living there escaped unharmed and that things are looking better for them as they recover from the incident.

I should be thankful that how tired I was by the time I hit the pillow made me sleep so well that I didn't even hear Santa when he made his stop at my house.

So, don't get your knickers in a knot about tbe small stuff and be grateful for what life gives you and what you can make of it.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207 or send me an email to editorial@forterietimes.com.

opinion page

Gun registry doesn't just target law–abiding citizens

The following is a letter to one of the Times' affiliates in the Niagara Community Newspaper Group, about the ongoing discussion on aboloshing the long-gun registry

Dear Editor,

The Progressive Conservative (PC) government has always been very clear about wanting to abolish the long gun registry.

It is difficult to imagine that this deep desire will not be satisfied. Mr. Dean Allison (Niagara-West Glanbrook MP) outlines the procedure ahead and with a majority and a stacked and compliant senate to work with chances would seem good.

Readers may recall that when our government just had a minority, the senate killed or let die two bills before the May 2011 election; C-311 dealing with environmental targets (killed without debate before a UN Climate Change Conference in Cancun) and Bill C-393, fulfilling a nine- year- old Canadian promise to send life saving generic drugs to HIV/AIDS victims.Mr. Allison will recall voting in favour of that bill, days before it was allowed to die.

One wonders about our system when so much time is spent by our elected MP's in approving a bill only to have non-elected, selected by the Prime Minister- of- the-day senators summarily kill it.

Certainly Mr. Harper, in opposition, railed against the Senate for years; no doubt he finds it quite useful now.

Some 72 per cent of Canadians interviewed believe that the registry has done nothing to prevent crime.

However, when the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), after a comprehensive survey,concluded that the registry was most useful and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and its Ontario counterpart have come to the same conclusion, and when doctors in emergency rooms and many other organizations want to maintain the registry, that would seem to be more evidence based research than what interviewed Canadians perceive.

While a good political cover, how would they know?

Basically the idea that the registry has only targeted law abiding owners is almost laughable.

But no doubt, it plays well to the PC political base.

I find it petty and vindictive that when the police associations, who claim to access the database thousands of times a day and some provinces want to keep the database, Mr. Allison insists that it must be destroyed "so that the NDP cannot resurrect it in the event that the party forms a government."

Seems we are about a third of the way through the process of getting Bill C-19 passed. It would seem good if saner heads would prevail, so that the over $2 billion spent so far will not have been totally wasted.

Our government in a magnanimous gesture could allow those who want to keep the registry to make use of the database.

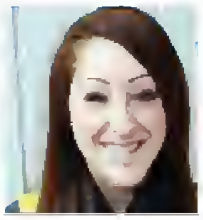
Or some legal manoeuvering will prevail.

I guess one could also dream the newly selected head of the RCMP will take a stand against such total waste.

Richard Ring
Grimsby

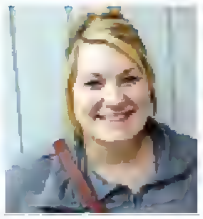
The TIMES Asks

How has 2012 been treating you so far?



Brittany McCormick

"I've been home visiting my friends and it's been phenomenal."

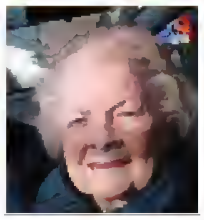


Ruth Ann Sparks

"It's been good, but I'm going to have a hard time getting the date correct on my school assignments."

Karin Westlin–Gagne

"It's been great and I'm loving the weather."



Doris Hughes

"I've been happy with the weather and I look forward to the rest of the year. "

What do you think?

E–mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905–871–3100, ext. 207

Animals need to eat too

The Fort Erie SPCA would like to thank several local stores who donated pet food over the holiday season. Seen here with the collection is kennel attendant Robyn Brown and animal control officer Melissa Ott.

Isn't it time you belonged to Fort Erie Community Credit Union?

Join us today!

Like us on Facebook

FORT ERIE CREDIT UNION

www.forteriecu.com

Local woman facing charges after raid in St. Catharines

Police seize $10,000 in cocaine, along with small amount of pills, pot and cash

Two people, including a Fort Erie resident, face drug charges after Niagara Regional Police raided a home on Cosby Ave. in St. Catharines Wednesday night and seized $10,000 worth of cocaine.

Police said they have been investigating a man for allegedly selling drugs from his home since late 2011.

Officers found a large amount of cocaine and $200 worth of prescription drugs during the bust at around 11:30 p.m. Small amounts of marijuana and cash were also confiscated, police said. Four people were arrested but only two were charged.

A 38-year-old Fort Erie woman is charged with 10 counts of possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking. She was released with a February court date.

A 31-year-old St. Catharines man is charged with 10 counts of possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking, one count of drug possession, possession of proceeds and breach of probation. He was held for a bail hearing.

THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

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EMERGENCY TELEPHONE INFORMATION 905-871-1600

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PUBLIC NOTICES

(1) NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
PROPOSED INCREASE IN BUILDING PERMIT FEES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 7 of the Ontario Building Code Act and Section 1.9.1.2 of Ontario Regulation 350/06 of the said Act that the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie intends to consider a by-law at its meeting of February 13, 2012 to increase the current building permit fees.

Builders and members of the public are invited to appear before Council at the Public Meeting to be held on: **Monday February 6, 6:00 p.m., 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario** Written submissions will also be accepted by the Clerk up until 3:00 p.m. Friday February 3, 2012.

The proposal is to increase Building Permit Fees by 4.3%. The Objective is to operate closer to cost recovery from permit fee Revenue. The costs of administering and enforcing the Building Code Act is available on the Town's website.

For information regarding Building Permit Fees, please contact Robert Romanuk, Chief Building Official at: (905) 871-1600, Ext. 2515 or rromanuk@forterie.on.ca

Any person interested in appearing before Council as a delegation at its meeting of February 6, 2012 to address the proposed increase in building permit fees may register with the Clerk's Office by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 3, 2012 by calling 905-871-1600 ext 2236 or 2212.

Dated at Fort Erie, Ontario this 7th day January 2012.

Carolyn J. Kett, Town Clerk
Town of Fort Erie
ckett@forterie.on.ca

(2) TOWN OF FORT ERIE
COMMUNITY LEAD SAMPLING PROGRAM

The Operations Division of the Infrastructure Services Department is conducting our bi-annual Community Lead Sampling Program. We're looking to the customers of The Town of Fort Erie to help meet our regulatory requirements.

The presence of lead in drinking water may be as a result of lead service piping, older cast iron water main with lead joints, lead based solder in copper plumbing, or some brass fixtures may contain lead.

To participate in this program please call 905-871-1600 ext. 2465 to schedule an appointment for sample collection by our Licensed Operators. Sample collection will take about 45 minutes and all participants will be provided with copies of the sample results.

Preference will be given to homes constructed prior to 1996 due to the ban of lead based solder at that time.

(3) OVERNIGHT WINTER PARKING ON STREETS

ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS: In an effort to keep the streets free of vehicles during the winter months for snowplowing and sanding operations, residents are reminded that no overnight parking is permitted.

Traffic By-law No. 2000-89, Section 205 provides that "No person shall park a vehicle or permit a vehicle to remain parked" on any street in Town "between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. between November 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011.

The Town's By-law Enforcement Officers will be exercising vigilant enforcement of By-law No. 2000-89. ***Your vehicle will be issued a parking ticket and could be towed, at your expense,*** if found in violation of the by-law.

Enquiries may be directed to the Town's By-law Enforcement Officers by calling (905) 871-1600, Extension 2216 (Geoff Stephenson) or Extension 2215 (Matt Richardson).

(4) TENDER ISF-01-2012

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie is inviting submission from interested bidders to provide any and all labour, materials and equipment necessary to complete:

THE RENOVATION OF FIRE STATION #4

Sealed submission clearly marked as to contents will be received by **Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk at 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON** until 2:00 p.m. local time on:

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3rd, 2012

Specific project details and requirements are provided within the bid documents. PLEASE NOTE that a non-mandatory pre-bid site visit has been arranged to be held on **Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Fire Station #4, 398 Ridge Rd., Fort Erie, Ontario, L0S 1N0**

Questions concerning this project may be directed in writing to Sean Hutton, Facilities Manager at shutton@forterie.on.ca

Effective February 1, 2011, all Town of Fort Erie's formal competitive bid opportunities are posted on the Town's Landing Page www.biddingo.com/forterie.

If a hard copy is required, please contact Bart Menage bmenage@forterie.on.ca or at (905) 871-1600 ext. 2303. Only once suitable arrangements have been made, tender documents may be picked up at the Town Hall Customer Service unit, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6, commencing Monday, January 9th, 2012 on payment of twenty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents ($28.25) non-refundable cash or cheque payable to the Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie.

The lowest of any tender not necessarily accepted.

Infrastructure Services
Facilities Maintenance

Morning snack program keeps nutrition on students' minds

Kris Dubé
The Times

Nutrition is an important part of staying focused in the classroom and that's why the mid-morning snack program at Our Lady of Victory is going strong, in its second year.

Last year, the program at the local elementary school provided snacks for about 400 students, but this time around all 505 of the school's learners are taking part and have had fresh and healthy snacks prepared for them on a regular basis.

"I go through more fresh fruit every week than I do anything else," said Lisa Barker, co-ordinator of the in-school program.

The healthy menu is made possible by a $2,400 provincial grant, along with preparation equipment that has been provided by Niagara Nutritional Partners.

One of the conditions of receiving the grant from the province, is that there needs to be matching contributions from the school's community, whether it is through fundraising or parents of students writing a cheque if they can.

"We will ask our parents every so often, to consider making a donation," said principal Theresa Murphy.

Barker says every penny that comes in from parents or guardians is greatly appreciated, but more is needed if the program is to be successful with another grant.

"We have to show our partners that we're trying to raise funds," she said.

For 38 weeks in the academic year, students are treated to items like smoothies, delicious oatmeal and other wise choices.

Murphy said from the conversations she has had with parents, it is a program that is valued and makes a big difference for both the parents and the children.

> **"We also want the kids to know there needs to be a balance."**
>
> *— Theresa Murphy*
> *OLV principal*

"They are very thankful... they depend on it a lot and they are very appreciative," she said.

Murphy knows that with any child, chips and pop and other snacks are a staple of growing up...and that's fine.

But she does hope the mid-morning snack program will make students realize the importance of nutrition more than they have already.

"We also want the kids to know there needs to be a balance," she said.

To donate to the program, you can call the school at (905) 871-3092.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Katie Wira, Anne-Marie Johnston-Vaccaro, principal Theresa Murphy, Daylon Groulx and Lisa Barker getting items ready for the mid-morning snack program at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School.

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Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake 905 357 0681
Fort Erie 905 871 8868 www.kimcraitor.com

Kick the habit with Bridges

What's your New Year's Resolution for 2012? Did you resolve to quit smoking, lose weight, eat healthier, exercise more, or better manage your stress? There's no need to go it alone. Bridges Community Health Centre (CHC) can help.

Bridges CHC health care professionals are offering a number of community health and wellness programs this winter that can help you achieve your goal. According to Barron, Health Promoter at Bridges CHC, "research has shown that programs focused on helping individuals learn self-management skills increases their chances of making positive changes to their health."

Programs are focused on helping you quit smoking; learning how to manage and live better with an ongoing illness or chronic pain; preventing and managing diabetes, changing your relationship with food; and using a mindfulness approach for achieving health and well-being.

Bridges CHC also offers drop-in groups for men, women and expecting mom's and moms with babies up to eight weeks. All moms receive a $10 food gift certificate every week they attend.

Barron says "Bridges CHC really has something for everyone. We are also offering incentives to help people achieve their goals." Those who interested in quitting smoke, or who have recently quit, can register for the Quit and Win contest. And, register and participate in one of their community health and wellness programs and have a chance at winning one of five $25 gift certificates redeemable at No Frills.

All Bridges programs are available at no cost. For more information on any of their programs or contest details, contact 905-871-7621. Detailed information is also available on their website www.bridgeschc.ca.

A visual donation

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Recently, the office of local optometrist Francis Dubé donated cheques to parent councils at both Bertie Public School and Garrison Road Public School. Two dollars for every student who underwent an eye exam was donated to the schools and Dubé, along with optometrist Brandon Marlatt donated the cheques to Lisa Bartlett and Jodi Gates. The purpose of the initiative was to raise awareness about the importance of evaluating your vision with today's youth, considering OHIP covers eye exams for anyone 19-years-old and younger.

Have you HEARD?

by Alaina Hillier, M.Cl.Sc
Registered by CASLTO
Audiologist

ARE GENERIC INSTRUMENTS WORTH WHILE?

Some people order non-prescription hearing instruments in much the same way that they might buy inexpensive reading glasses in a drugstore. While some people with age-related reading difficulties may benefit from low-cost magnifying glasses, the same might not be said about non-custom hearing instruments. To begin with, most (if not all) "generic" hearing instruments lack desirable features such as directional microphones (which help to locate sound) and telecoils (which work in tandem with telephones to make phone conversations clearer). Other drawbacks include lack of feedback suppression, difficulty manipulating controls, and lack of power and customization. When the primary driving force in hearing instruments is greater customization and easier comfort and utility, generic instruments fall far short.

There are many reasons why good quality hearing aids cost as much as they do and why you should want to invest in a hearing aid built by a reputable manufacturer. Developing new hearing aid technology is not just about electronics any more. Medical research is a new area of cost for manufacturers. It is necessary for scientists to gain a better understanding of the complexity of the cochlea and effects of hearing loss in order to develop better products. For more information, please call HEARAGAIN BALANCE & HEARING CLINICS at 905-871-4242. Located at 660 Garrison Rd., Unit 12, we are open M-F, 9am-5pm. Most major insurance accepted. Please visit our website at www.hearagainclinics.com

P.S. The most important step in finding a hearing instrument that fits your specific needs is getting a hearing test, which non-prescription hearing instruments do not require.

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Male charged in two robbery attempts

A local 20-year-old has been arrested in connection to two attempted robberies on the same day, back in November 2011.

On November 13, a lone male entered the Crystal Mart convenience store in Crystal Beach and demanded the clerk open the cash register. The male then pushed the clerk, but fled the store empty handed.

At approximately 7:30 p.m. the same male entered the Hasty Mart located on Dominion Road. The male went behind the counter and attempted to remove money from the cash register, but the clerk blocked his attempt. The male made a second attempt, but again was stopped by the clerk. At this point the male fled the store.

An investigation was commenced by No. 5 District Detectives, which resulted in the identification of the suspect, but he could not immediately be located. For this reason, warrants were issued for the male's arrest.

On January 5, detectives were able to successfully locate the alleged robbery and theft suspect. Arrested and charged with one count each of Robbery and Theft under $5000.00 is a 20 year old resident of Crystal Beach. He has been released on an Officer in Charge Undertaking and will appear in court on a future date.

Fire department called to mall

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Last Saturday, the Fort Erie Fire Department (FEFD) was dispatched to the County Fair Mall, when an alert shopper noticed an unusual odour in the building. Keith German, deputy chief with the FEFD said one of the building's rooftop heating units had malfunctioned and firefighters were on scene for about an hour.

Region will pick up your Christmas Tree on Jan. 14

Niagara residents are reminded that they can use the Region's Christmas tree pick-up to dispose of their tree.

Christmas trees will be collected in all Niagara municipalities on Saturday, Jan. 14.

Trees must be placed at the end of the driveway no later than 7 a.m. on Jan. 14. Residents are asked to not place Christmas trees on top of, or inside, snow banks. Trees must not be placed in a plastic bag and all decorations (bulbs, tinsel, lights, etc.) must be removed from the tree prior to collection.

Please note that this service does not apply to artificial Christmas trees.

Severe weather conditions may result in collection delays. If weather conditions delay collection, residents should leave their tree at the end of their driveway to be collected when weather permits. All Christmas trees collected are chipped and turned into mulch or compost.

In addition to curbside collection, Niagara residents can also take their Christmas trees to any of Niagara Region's landfill sites to dispose of their trees free of charge.

LIONS CLUB OF FORT ERIE
ROAST PORK DINNER
Friday January 13th, 2012
Lions Seniors Centre at 265 High Street from 5 pm to 7 pm
• Adults $10.00 Includes FREE $10.00 Fort Erie Slots Voucher for Adults
• Children (10 & under) $5.00
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STONE ROAD VILLAGE a 55+ retirement residence, located at 2016 Niagara Stone Road, NOTL, is now under construction the 79-unit life lease building will open in the Fall of 2012. Call now 905-935-6080, ext 240.

Commercial/ Industrial A530

FOR LEASE $10/sq/ft 15 Albert St W Thorold, Professional office.3000sqft available.Office, two separate units 1500sqft each, each unit offers 4 separate offices, on-site parking, large reception area & kitchen, fully furnished. 905-227-5544, cell 905-328-2220

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Upper 1 bdrm, Feb. 1st. $550 + hydro. First, last & security. No pets, non-smoker References. 905-871-0449

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Notices

Notices A910

SHOWCASING FORT ERIE. Fort Erie Friendship Festival would like to invite all Fort Erie Region businesses, big and small to be a part of the "Showcasing Fort Erie" celebration in the 2012 Fort Erie Friendship Festival. Call 905-871-6454 to register and for more details.

Community Services

Coming Events A940

GROUP DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES
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Limited enrollment.
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The Fort Erie Times

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Route: 2003 - Thunder Bay - 40 papers
(Jewell) (Riselay) (Bethune, Cook)

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Notices A910

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Births

The Fort Erie Times

2011 Newborns Year In Review

Full colour photograph with baby's name and birthdate for only

$34.95

If you would like your newborn son or daughter to be part of this feature in early January 2011 please call 905-871-3100 or email classfieds@forterietimes.com

The Fort Erie Times
450 Garrison Road, Unit 1
Deadline January 10th, 2012

SCOTT

Dan and Laura are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, **Madeline Elizabeth**, on November 28, 2011 in Niagara Falls, Ont. Proud grandparents are Bernie and Linda Ruskin as well as, Ed and Debbie Bobinkski. Adoring aunts and uncles are Mike and Jen Pilato and Katelyn Scott. Thank you so much to Dr. Cheema and the caring staff at GNGH.

Show everyone your appreciation.
Call 1-866-541-6757 and leave a Thank You Note on this page.

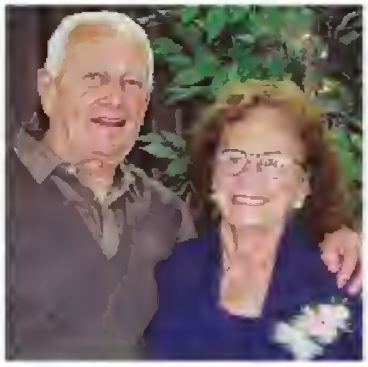
Births

Special Boxing Day Gift
Terry Benner and Kayla Marinaccio are thrilled to welcome
Charlie Edward Benner
a healthy 8lb boy arriving December 26, 2011, 4:45am.
Proud Grandparents are Terry and Sera Benner of Port Colborne, Vito Marinaccio and Nancy Marinaccio of Fort Erie.

Birthday greetings

Happy 14th Birthday
Carter
January 6th
Love Grandpa, Grandma, Mom and Family

Anniversaries



OPEN HOUSE
for the
65th Wedding Anniversary
of
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Saturday, January 14th from 2 - 4 p.m.
Garrison Road United Brethren Church
Best Wishes Only

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Deaths

DICKSON, Donald Charles - passed away at the Douglas Memorial Hospital in Fort Erie on January 1st, 2012 in his 84th year. Loving husband of Anne. Proud father of Shari Collard of Mississauga and Randy (Carol) Dickson of Nevada City California. Sadly missed by his 2 grandchildren Rick (Karen) Collard and Sarah Skeete and 2 great grandchildren Mariah and Kia Skeete. Also survived by his sister Barbara Falconer, sister in law Judith (Jose) Cabrita. Predeceased by one son David, brothers William, Robert and Ralph and his sisters Bessie Bergeron, Alma Longhurst and Jean Haylor. Family and friends gathered to celebrate Don's Life at the Recreational Centre in the Black Creek Leisurepark Community, 3033 Townline Rd. on Thursday January 5th at 1-3 pm. Flowers gratefully declined. If desired, donations to the Diabetes Association would be appreciated by the family. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. www.bennerfuneralservices.com

MARTIN, Elsie E. - Peacefully with family by her side on Tuesday January 3, 2012 at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital at the age of 97. Beloved wife of the late Howard (2007). Dear mother of Alan (Judie) and the late Brian. Cherished grandmother of Sean, Nathan, Michel, Blake, Scott and Margaret. Great-grandmother of Paige, Alyssa, Lucus and Evan. Cherished aunt to Janet (Jim), Elaine and their children Laura, Bethany, Erika and Warren. Elsie was a volunteer at the NOTL Hospital for many years, and was an active member of St. Mark's Anglican Church. Special thanks to the staff of the NOTL Hospital and Dr. Reimer for the care and compassion shown to Elsie. Cremation has taken place and a private family interment will be held at a later date. For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to the NOTL Hospital Palliative Care and may be made through **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME** 415 Regent Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake. Online guest register www.morganfuneral.com

A Memorial Donation has been made to
Morgan Funeral Homes Community Fund

Deaths

PATERSON-CASSLING, Eileen Marion (Pat) - Suddenly, in her sleep, on January 3rd, 2012, at Gilmore Lodge, Fort Erie ON. She was 91. Loving Mother to Susan Cassling (husband Gordon Perchie). A veteran of World War II, Pat later emigrated from Great Britain, and then worked for the Ontario government health plans until her retirement. Services will be held at **THE WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Rd N, Ridgeway, at 11:00 am, on Saturday January 28th, 2012. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the CNIB. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at www.williamsfuneralhome.ca

VAINCOURT, Gertrude I. (Brewster/ Morningstar) - At Greater Niagara General Hospital on Monday, January 2, 2012, Gertrude in her 94th year, beloved wife of the late Omer Vaincourt (2007). At Gertrude's request cremation has taken place. A graveside service will be held at St.John's United Cemetery, Snyder, on Monday, January 9, 2012 at 11:a.m. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, 905 894-0120.

Card of thanks

Thank You!

The family of the late **Tom Pepper** wishes to express sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness, messages of sympathy and to those who sent flowers and food during our trying time.
A special thank you to the McDonnell's whose support will never be forgotten.
Sincerely, The Pepper Family

There's an open gate at the end of the road,
Through which each one must go alone;
And there is a light we cannot see
Our Father claims His own.
Beyond the gate, our loved ones
Find happiness and rest,
And there is comfort in the thought
That a loving God knows best.

Memoriam Verse #36
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

Would you Like to Place an In Memoriam for Your Loved One?
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Marking your milestones.

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In memoriam

Cindy Ann Newman

1957 - 2007

"I'm already there
Take a look around
I'm the sunshine in your hair
I'm the shadow on the ground
I'm the whisper in the wind
I'm your imaginary friend
And I know I'm in your prayers
I'm already there."
Miss you and love you Mom.

yourlifemoments.ca

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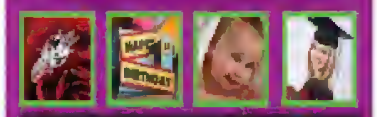

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In memoriam

Giovanni (John) Maturani

Jan. 5, 1923 - Jan. 7, 2011

Those we love remain with us
In the whisper of the wind,
In a soft rain that falls from Heaven
In each sunrise
In every single star that lights the night sky
And in every single memory we hold
within our hearts.
Since Heaven has become your home
We sometimes feel so alone,
And though we now are far apart
You hold a big, piece of our heart.
We never knew how much we would grieve
When it was time for you to leave,
Or just how much our heart would ache
From that one fragment you would take.
God lets this tender hole remain,
Reminding us we'll meet again,
And one day all the pain will cease
When He restores this missing piece

Always in our hearts, forever loved and missed by Teresa, Anna, Louie, Sandy and Megan

In loving memory of a dear father,

Harry J. Barnhart

who passed away January 6, 1984.
His memory is as clear today.
As in the hour he passed away.
Always remembered by your son.

Time takes away the edge of grief,
But memory turns back every leaf.

Memoriam Verse #39
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

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Jerome J. O'Churchin, Funeral Director

905-894-0120

241 Ridge Road • Ridgeway • ON • L0S 1N0

In memoriam

In Loving Memory Of:
ELVA LEADLAY
A Loving Wife and Mother
Who Passed Away January 10, 2011

A whisper that January day
You got a gentle call
God took you by the hand
And you quietly left us all.
You never failed to do your best
Your heart was true and tender,
You only lived for those you loved
And only those you love remember.
Your wants in life were simple
Your love for us true,
As long as we were happy
You were happy too.
Tired and weary you made no fuss
But tried so hard to stay with us.

Always Loved and Remembered,
Doug and Family.

In memoriam

James Driver

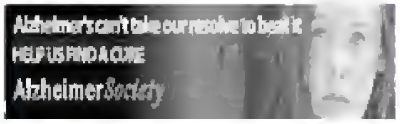
In loving memory of a Dear Father and Grandfather who passed away five years ago, January 9, 2007.

We think of you in silence
No eyes can see us weep,
But still within our aching hearts
Your memory we keep.

Loved and sadly missed by Cheryl and Ted, Pat and Cathy, Caitlin and Ryan, Danielle and Nicole.

Many Thanks

Special "thank you" to Douglas Memorial Palliative Care nursing staff and Dr. Scher for their compassionate care of my soulmate and our mother Cheryl Light (Nov. 2, 2011). Thank you to all who gave donations, flowers and condolences during this very difficult time.
The Light Family



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Darren Flagg
905-871-0444

Off to Denmark

Team Euro before heading off to the airport on Boxing Day, where the local team continues its participation in a hockey exchange program between Fort Erie and Vojens, Denmark. In this photo are Sue Mitchell, manager, Daniel Stewart, Brandon Haidon, trainer Neil Fendert, Garry Overholt, coach Lonny Cooke, Bryce Mitchell, Sean Cooke, Karl Fendert, Jen Kostyk, Joe Flagg, Jeff Kostyk, Connor Hopper, Solomon Jensen, assistant coach Lars Jensen, Austin McNeil, William Huhs, assistant coach Ray Daley, Tyler Winger and Spencer Daley.

Volleyball and basketball camps being offered at FESS

March Break is an ideal time for young athletes to work on their game of choice.

This especially applies to young basketball and volleyball players who can't get enough of their respective sports.

During the break, there will be a camp at Fort Erie Secondary School for both sports and students have until March 1 to sign up, for the cost of $100.

Prior to the week when students can take time off from their studies in March, there will also be four-week workshops starting on Tues. Jan. 17, with a 'Basketball 101' camp. Deadline to sign up is Jan. 13.

It runs on Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and there is no cost to register.

A 'Volleyball 101' camp will be held at the local high school, also on Tuesday nights from Feb. 14 to March 6. There is also no cost to register for this program.

Registration deadline is Feb. 5.

For more information call Kerry Passero at (905) 871-4610 or send an email to kerry.passero@dsbn.org.

Canucks in town tonight

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Meteor Connor Stewart goes up against a St. Catharines Falcon during recent action at the Leisureplex. The local Jr. B squad is well-rested since their last game on Dec. 28, before heading to Port Colborne last night and hosting the Niagara Falls Canucks tonight at the Leisureplex. The puck drops at 7:15 p.m.

Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to editorial@forterietimes.com or phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

Bouquet
To all those who hosted house parties this past holiday season and assumed responsibility for their guests' safe arrival home. Whether it was calling them a cab, or dropping them off yourselves, there was definitely no 'elephant in the room.'

Bouquet
To the people who found my husband, after he left the house and was wandering the Ridgeway area. He is an Alzheimer's patient and should not be out in public without the company of loved ones, but a few people found him and waited with him until he could be safely returned home. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Bouquet
To the local community, for supporting great programs such as Jumpstart, a fund that provides for children who want to play organized sports but are unable to because of finances. This truly is a great program and the people who support it are just as great.

Brick
To people that don't know how to use a four-way stop. Know when it is your turn to move forward and stop putting people in danger.

Bouquet
To the people who joined forces to provide a collection of clothes, gift cards and gifts for the family who lost their home in a fire on Christmas Eve.

Brick
To the person driving a brown truck who swerved into my lane when we were heading in the same direction on Garrison Road. Everyone makes mistakes and maybe you needed to be paying more attention, but when I looked over at you at a stop light and you were laughing about it, and I have never been so unimpressed with someone's behaviour in my entire life.

Sherkston BIC
Join us on
Sunday morning at 10:30am.
Nursery & Toddler Care provided Plus
Kids Time starting at 10:15 am.
"YOU GOTTA GET OUT OF THE BOAT!"
by Lead Pastor Dale Shaw
5348 Sherkton Road, Sherkston
www.sherkstonbicchurch.com

Riverside Community Church
2669 Niagara Parkway, Fort Erie
905-871-8880
www.riversidecommunityc.com
We look forward to meeting you!
"Why, God?"
Pastor Paul Smylski
10:00 a.m.

St. John's Stevensville United Church
14789 Sodom Road, Stevensville, Ontario
Invites and Welcomes You to Join Us
Sunday Service: 11 a.m. - noon
Sunday School: 11 a.m. - noon
Wheelchair Accessible

Crystal Ridge Church & River Crossings Church Present
Team KIDS Club
Formerly known as Beacons
Rescheduled to Wednesday evenings
STARTING
Wednesday January 11th 2012
@ 6:30-8:00
all kids in grades 1 thru 5 welcome
@ 241 Elmwood Ave
Crystal Beach, On
905-894-6922

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Free Delivery

We offer free delivery on all of our prescriptions and over-the-counter medication.

For more information or to place an order please contact us.

Store Hours

Monday to Friday	9:00am - 6:00pm
Saturdays	9:00am - 4:00pm
Sundays	Closed
Holidays	Closed

Address & Phone

660 Garrison Rd., Unit 7
Fort Erie,
Across from Dr. Mitchell's Walk-in clinic
905-994-0990